

Our Lady & St Joseph Catholic Academy
Curriculum Information
Reception
Autumn Term



At Our Lady and St Joseph Catholic Academy, we aim to provide your child with a broad, balanced, inspiring and creative curriculum. We endeavour to plan enriching and challenging opportunities to help your child learn the essential skills needed for further learning and development in Key Stage 1 and beyond.

In Nursery and Reception your entire child's learning and development is underpinned by the areas of learning in the document 'Development Matters'.

Learning and Development

Learning and development is categorised into three prime areas of learning:

· **Communication and language**

Children will be encouraged to listen and respond appropriately in a range of situations. They will learn to follow instructions and answer questions about their experiences. Children will be taught how to express themselves effectively, showing an awareness of the listener.

· **Physical development**

Children will develop good control and coordination in large and small movements. They will learn to move confidently in a variety of ways. They will learn to handle tools and equipment effectively. Children will learn about the importance of physical exercise and healthy eating.

· **Personal, social and emotional development**

Children will learn to play cooperatively and take turns, forming positive relationships with adults and other children. The children will choose activities and resources and develop confidence to try new things, they will be able to describe themselves in positive terms and talk about abilities. They will understand and follow the classroom and school rules.

Additionally there are four specific areas of learning:

· **Literacy**

Following the Read, Write, Inc scheme, the children will learn the letter sounds and how to blend them together to read simple words and then sentences. They will learn to write simple words using their knowledge of letter sounds.

· **Mathematics**

The children will learn to count reliably with numbers from 1-10, place them in order and find 1 more and 1 less. They will learn to add and take away with numbers up to 10 and solve simple problems.

Children will use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money. They will recognise, describe and create patterns. They will learn to name and describe shapes.

· **Understanding the world**

Children will talk about past and present in their own lives and in the lives of family members. The children will learn about what makes them unique, and will talk about some of the similarities and differences in relation to friends or family through the topic of 'Elmer'.

Through looking at the changes autumn brings the children will talk about some of the things they have observed such as plants, animals, natural and found objects.

Children will learn that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools. They will complete simple programmes on the computer.

- Expressive arts and design

Children will use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.

Children will sing songs and make music including a Christmas concert. They will explore a variety of musical instruments. Children will also engage in imaginative role-play based on their own first-hand experiences and stories.

Achievement of these prime and specific areas of learning is by:

- Playing and exploring
- Active learning
- Creating and thinking critically

Seasonal Curriculum Plan

Autumn Term

Elmer, Autumn, Harvest, Healthy eating, Diwali, Bonfire Night, Winter.

**Religious Education*

Creation, People who care for us, Advent, Christmas

Spring Term

Winter, Chinese New Year, Mother's day, Spring, Animals

**Religious Education*

Baptism, People who help us, Lent, Holy Week

Summer Term

Summer, growing, life cycles, Father's Day, mini beasts

**Religious Education*

Easter, Pentecost, Prayer

Children's Interest

In Early Years we believe in engaging the children through topics that interest them. Therefore alongside the seasonal topics we include topics that will interest your child. These will vary year on year depending on the interests of the cohort. Previous topics have included Bears, Castles (Knights and Princesses), Transport and Animals. We will keep you up to date with our chosen topics throughout the year.